



SIGNAL online

Archives

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The introductory page for the Southern Ontario Library Service is www.sols.org. From that page, you can move to any other pages created by staff at the Southern Ontario Library Service, as well as to links to resources and professional information.

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1. ONTARIO PUBLIC LIBRARY DIRECTORY – *Deadline for checking entry is September 29th*

The staff from Ontario Library Service-North have asked for help to ensure that the new print version of the **Ontario Public Library Directory** reflects the most current information available. Over the summer, the directory was updated using information received from libraries across the province. The staff at OLS-North have asked that every library now take a few minutes to double check the current information for their library. The link for checking is <http://www.olsn.ca/opld/olsn-advsearch.asp>.

Once your library's directory record has been checked, if anything requires changes, please contact the Marketing staff at OLS-North. The marketing team can be reached at marketing@olsn.ca or 1-800-461-6348, extension 201. If OLS-North staff have not heard from you by September 29th, it will be assumed that the information for your library is

accurate and they will proceed to publication.

2. COOL – CONSORTIUM OF ONTARIO LIBRARIES

a) Audiobooks from Overdrive

On Monday, July 14, 2006, almost 20 library representatives gathered (or teleconferenced) at the SOLS office for a presentation and discussion on the viability of establishing a shared audiobooks collection from OverDrive. SOLS hosted the event which consisted of a web based presentation and demonstration from the vendor in the morning and a Questions and Answers session, followed by a discussion of project timelines and library interest in the afternoon.

One of the key items discussed was each library's ability to participate during this fiscal year. Follow-up with OverDrive has resulted in the company being agreeable to splitting the start-up costs over two years. Consequently, libraries that have been unable to commit to participating this year may wish to reconsider given this latest development. Those interested were asked to contact Barbara Franchetto at bfranchetto@sols.org or 1-800-387-5765 ext. 5104 by September 22, 2006. While the deadline for an expression of interest has passed, those interested in this offer should continue to follow developments.

In the meantime, SOLS is investigating how other OverDrive shared audiobooks collections work in order to then formulate Terms of Reference and a cost sharing formula for those Ontario public libraries wishing to participate in this initiative.

b) Trial offer from CEDROM-SNi – Free trial access extended to October 31st

This information was also relayed through the COOL listserv and SOLSCEO listserv earlier in September. On August 1, 2006, Osprey Publishing entrusted CEDROM-SNi with daily electronic updates of most of its media sources. This would include the dailies, such as *Barrie Examiner*, *Belleville Intelligencer*, *Brantford Expositor*, *Chatham Daily News*, *Cobourg Daily Star*, *Corwall Standard-Freeholder*, *Kingston Whig-Standard*, *Lindsay Daily Post*, *Niagara Falls Review*, *Orillia Packet & Times*, *Owen Sound Sun Times*, *Pembroke Daily Observer*, *Peterborough Examiner*, *Port Hope Evening Guide*, *Sarnia Observer*, *St. Catharines Standard* and *Welland Tribune*. This also affects several weeklies, such as *Colborne Chronicle*, *Collingwood Enterprise-Bulletin*, *Dunnville Chronicle*, *Midland Free Press* and *Northumberland Weekly*.

As a result, these papers will no longer be available through Proquest. To ensure a smooth transition for current Proquest customers or give you immediate access to these important publications, CEDROM-SNi is offering libraries **free trial access, until the end of October**, to those Osprey Media Group titles. Free electronic access will be provided through the NewsScan.com Virtual News Library. Please go to the following site for access: <http://www.library.newsscan.com/ontario>

COOL is investigating pricing for these products and will forward this information to libraries as soon as it is available. In the meantime, please take advantage of this free offer.

3. INFO DATABASE – Submissions in October

As part of the VDX interlibrary loan system, there are several ways to access the bibliographic records. A number of libraries are connected to the system by Z39.50 but the bibliographic records for quite a few public libraries continue to be part of the INFO Union Catalogue. This is an annual compilation of records. For those libraries that usually submit their records to SOLS for the INFO catalogue, or libraries with new databases who wish to submit for first time, please be aware that the submission process for the next INFO Union Catalogue will commence a few weeks later than usual this year due to contract negotiations with the vendor. Some time in October, the process will be initiated and will include announcements and a call for submissions.

For more information on the INFO Union Catalogue, you can call the SOLS HelpDesk at 1-800-387-5765, extension 4 or by e-mail to helpdesk@sols.org

4. NEW POOLS

Pools are a great way to make money go further. Adding the purchasing power of several libraries together achieves economies of scale and buys more for the collection. OLS-North staff are facilitating the development of four new pools – a CD-ROM pool, a Young Adult Fiction pool, a Talking Books on CD pool and a French DVD pool. For these new pools, OLS-North staff will purchase and process the material, cover the cost of administration and schedule exchanges.

For each new pool, there will also be a pool committee. The responsibilities of the committee members would be to advise, discuss and make recommendations to OLS-North staff in matters concerning the pool. The committee would also work with OLS-North to develop the Terms of Reference for the pool, which will include rotation frequency and duration of contract, number of items in each block, costs/fees associated with the pool, procedures for lost and damaged items. As was possible, there are two representatives from southern Ontario libraries and two representatives from northern Ontario on each committee. The committees have been meeting via teleconference.

Over the coming few months, contracts for these new pools will be sent to all libraries. This will allow others who might wish to join the various pools to study the details.

For questions on these new pools, please contact Dana Seabrook at dseabrook@olsn.ca. Any questions about existing SOLS pools, such as the large print pools, would continue to be directed to Lynda Dowdle at pools@sols.org

5. FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

a) Ontario Trillium Foundation - Next deadline is November 1, 2006

Under the OTF community program, applications for grants for municipal libraries serving small communities (populations of 20,000 or less) must be submitted through the municipality. Applications for grants for **county libraries** serving small municipalities (populations of 20,000 or less) must be submitted through the County Library Board. Applications for grants for **First Nation libraries** must be submitted through the First Nation's Band Council. A copy of the application process is posted on the Foundation's website at <http://www.trilliumfoundation.org/OTF-English/new/index.htm>. There is also a link to the Trillium website from the main SOLS page at www.sols.org. The remaining deadline for the 2006 round of applications is November 1st – at 5:00 pm on the deadline date.

b) RBC Foundation – Grants for After-School Programs

RBC Foundation will provide more than \$2 million in funding for 72 of Canada's leading after-school programs for the 2006-2007 school year. The recipients represent a diverse range of community-based organizations from across Canada, and were chosen by panels of local citizens. They include Boys and Girls Clubs, YMCAs, community centres, elementary schools and libraries, to name a few. Each after-school program will receive between \$15,000 and \$40,000 from RBC to provide a wide-range of activities, including computer instruction, sports, literacy tutoring, music and art lessons, nutrition guidance, and homework help. For more information, visit: www.rbc.com. Ontario grant recipients have included Crouch Neighbourhood Resource Centre and the Fort Erie Public Library.

6. SOLS WEBSITE

The web server in the SOLS Toronto office was upgraded and replaced last week. We do seem to be experiencing some problems with some of our forms, specifically the confirmation and notification pieces which are supposed to be sent. Of particular concern right now are the training registration forms. Until we can ensure that the forms are working correctly, we would ask that, if you wish to register for a training workshop, that you send an e-mail directly to training@sols.org providing the specifics. Your patience is greatly appreciated.

Next month, a number of small changes will also be made to the content of the SOLS website. The Joint OLS-North/SOLS Clearinghouse section will be reorganized for easier access and searching, and an RSS feed will be added for the front page news section. An announcement, outlining the changes in detail, will be posted on the website.

7. SOLS TRAINING WORKSHOPS – New workshop session added

a) Workshop information

This fall, SOLS is providing a variety of workshop topics, and information about the workshops is posted in the 'Training' section of the SOLS website at <http://www.sols.org/librarydev/training/clinicsworkshops/index.htm>.

There is one important change to the workshop listing which pertains to **Workshop 2 - The Fun and Facts of Early Literacy: Communicating with Parents through Storytime**. This is the workshop that is based on The Every Child Ready to Read @ your library® program, an early literacy initiative from the Public Library Association and Association of Library Service to Children of the American Library Association. It is a full-day workshop that includes early literacy research, examples of the development of each of the six early literacy skills for newborn to five-year-olds, techniques for planning storytimes that reach adults and children, and specific ideas for doing so. Saroj Ghoting is the workshop

leader for this session. She is co-author of **Early Literacy Storytimes @ your library: Partnering with Caregivers for Success**, published by ALA Editions in 2005. This book applies the information from the Every Child Ready to Read @ your library workshops to the storytime setting.

The dates for Workshop #2 remain the same but the location for the Brampton workshop has been changed. Due to the great interest shown in this workshop, a **third session** has been added. There are a number of spots left for the London location. There are still five spots left for the Brampton workshop. Please register for this workshop as soon as possible as we believe that these locations will fill up quickly.

The dates and locations for Workshop #2 workshops are :

Wednesday, October 4, 2006 from 9:30am to 4:30pm at London Public Library, Masonville branch.

Thursday, October 5, 2006 from 9:30am to 4:30pm now at **Terry Miller Recreation Centre, 1295 Williams Parkway, Brampton**, rather than a branch of the Brampton Public Library.

Tuesday, December 5, 2006 from 9:30am to 4:30pm at Oakville Public Library, Central Library (new session)

We have also added a French language workshop on time management called "Apprivoiser Le Temps : gestion efficace du temps". This is a two-part workshop that is being presented at the Bibliothèque publique d'Ottawa, succursale d'Orléans. (**Première Partie** : lundi, le 13 novembre 2006, 10 h à 13 h

Deuxième Partie : lundi, le 27 novembre 2006, 10 h à 13 h) The workshop is now listed on the SOLS training page, as Atelier # 9, but for further information on this workshop, please contact Louise Godbout-Legault, Coordinator of French Language Services for SOLS at 1-866-345-2358 or by e-mail to lgodbout-legault@sols.org

The **other** remaining Fall 2006 workshops are (which have already been advertised):

Workshop 3 - Innovative Programming for Toddlers, Preschoolers and Families - Spotlight on YOU: Storyteller, Entertainer, Facilitator.

This workshop will explore ways to turn storytime visitors into life-long library users with hands-on activities and interactive examples. Beginning with babies, it will explore how you can choose appropriate books and activities, and also explore family programming and techniques for appealing to all participants, from toddler to grandparent. Finally, the workshop will explore strategies for developing your personal programming style in ways that are traditional and/or innovative through storytelling, puppets, at-home reading incentives, crafts and activities. The presenter, Beth Maddigan, is the Children's Services Coordinator for the Cambridge Libraries. Beth is also the author of **The Big Book of Reading, Rhyming, and Resources: Programs for children: ages 4-8**.

The dates and locations for Workshop #3 will be:

Ottawa Public Library, Greenboro branch – Friday, October 13, 2006 from 10am to 3:30pm

Port Hope Public Library, Mary Benson branch – Friday, October 20, 2006 from 10am to 3:30pm

Orangeville Public Library, Main branch – Wednesday, October 25, 2006 from 10am to 3:30pm

London Public Library, Westmount branch – Friday, October 27, 2006 from 10am to 3:30pm (FULL)

St. Catharines Public Library, Central – Thursday, November 2, 2006 from 10am to 3:30pm

Workshop 4 - Reader's Advisory on Romance.

This is a reader's advisory and collection development workshop on Romance Fiction, presented by the always popular Sharron Smith, the Manager of Readers Advisory Services at the Kitchener Public Library.

The dates and locations for Workshop #4 will be:

Ottawa Public Library, Stittsville branch – Friday, November 3, 2006 from 10am to 1pm

London Public Library, Masonville branch – Thursday, November 9, 2006 from 10am to 1pm

Barrie Public Library – Friday, November 17, 2006 from 1pm to 4pm (FULL)

Burlington Public Library, Central – Monday, November 20, 2006 from 10am to 1pm

Workshop 5 - Effective Volunteer Recruitment and Retention: Find them and Keep them!

This half-day workshop will explore the recent trends in volunteering in Canada and will take a look at who volunteers and why, so positions and programs can be developed that will attract the right volunteers. The workshop will look at effective recruitment strategies and offer ideas on management systems and supervision for your program. The presenter for the workshop is Rob Lavery. Rob is the Resource Development Consultant at SOLS and has taught many workshops on fundraising topics.

The dates and locations for Workshop #5 will be:

Arnprior Public Library – Monday, November 6, 2006 from 9:30am to 12:30pm
 Belleville Public Library – Tuesday, November 7, 2006 from 9:30am to 12:30pm
 Barrie Public Library – Wednesday, November 8, 2006 from 1pm to 4pm
 Stratford Public Library – Monday, November 13, 2006 from 1pm to 4pm
 Lincoln Public Library, Vineland branch – Tuesday, November 14, 2006 from 9:30am to 12:30pm

Workshop 6 - Internet Safety and the Library

The London Public Library has launched an Internet Awareness Project (IAP) and the team's mission is "to develop and implement an integrated strategy and plan to educate key target audiences about media and internet safety ...". London staff would like to share the results of this project with the public library community in a workshop environment. The presenters will be Brian Rhoden, Literacy Coordinator at London Public Library, Anya Hieba, Youth Services Librarian, and Lisa Manax Skikos, the E Communications officer at LPL. This workshop will be held at the Central Library of London Public Library on Thursday, November 23, 2006 from 10am to 4pm.

Workshop 7 - AccessABILITY 101: Delivering Top-Notch Services and Supports to Patrons with Disabilities

This interactive half-day workshop will examine the implications of **Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005** (AODA) for your service delivery. Further information about AODA is explained later in this issue of **Signal**. Our presenter, Michelle Penta, M.A., M.L.I.S., is the Hamilton Public Library's Adult Services Librarian for Diverse Communities.

The dates and locations for Workshop #7 will be:

Hamilton Public Library, Central Library – Thursday, October 26, 2006 from 1pm to 4pm
 Aurora Public Library – Thursday, November 2, 2006 from 1pm to 4pm
 Belleville Public Library – Thursday, November 16, 2006 from 1pm to 4pm

Workshop 8 – French Graphic Novels/ Bandes Dessinées (NEW, not included in print handout)

In the morning, Olivier Charbonneau of Concordia University, will make a presentation, in English, on french language graphic novels, or bandes dessinées. The number of published works, as well as sales, has confirmed the robust popularity of the "9th art". This presentation aims to introduce the world of 'bandes dessinées' and propose strategies to develop meaningful collections. In the afternoon, there will be given a presentation on bandes dessinées by La Librairie Monet, a Montreal book vendor.

The dates and locations for Workshop #8 will be:

Toronto Public Library, Fairview branch – Thursday, November 30, 2006 from 10am to 3pm
 London Public Library, Westmount branch – Friday, December 1, 2006 from 10am to 3pm

b) Registration information

From time to time, we do get asked about availability of a workshop. If you read about a SOLS workshop that interests you, to avoid disappointment, please register as soon as possible, preferable using one of these three methods:

- by email to training@sols.org.
- by using the electronic registration forms on our training website at <http://www.sols.org/librarydev/training/clinicsworkshops/index.htm>.
- or by calling toll-free to 1-866-303-2695.

When a workshop is particularly popular, or due to room capacity, or the presenter's preferences for size of group, it will fill up very quickly and no space may be left by the time you contact SOLS. When a workshop is full, it is our practice to keep a waiting list, and if there is sufficient interest, we do our best to offer an additional presentation. Please bear in mind that we may not always be in a position to schedule another presentation if the workshop presenter is not available.

8. LIBRARY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

SOLS provides an opportunity for library staff members to meet and discuss issues of common interest. This fall, the clinic connected to the Library Committee meetings will focus on using electronic information sources. There will also be a general discussion regarding the announcement from Knowledge Ontario to supply all publicly funded libraries in the Province of Ontario with a core suite of digital products supplied by Thomson Gale as well as the Canadian Reference Centre from Ebsco.

Meeting agendas are now posted on the SOLS website at

<http://www.sols.org/librarydev/networking/librarycommittee/index.htm>

The next round of Library Committees will be held as follows:

Monday, October 23, 2006 - Meeting 10am to 12:30pm, Clinic 1:30pm to 3:30pm- Peterborough area libraries at the Buckhorn Branch of the Galway-Cavendish & Harvey Township Public Library
 Tuesday, October 24, 2006 - Clinic 10am to 12:30pm, Meeting 1:30pm to 3pm- Lanark area libraries at the Carleton Place Public Library
 Wednesday, October 25, 2006 - Clinic 10am to 12:30pm, Meeting 1:30pm to 3pm- Leeds and Grenville area libraries at the Prescott Public Library
 Thursday, October 26, 2006 Clinic 10am to 12:30pm, Meeting 1:30pm to 3pm- Renfrew area libraries at the Head Clara & Maria Public Library in Stonecliffe
 Monday, October 30, 2006 - Meeting 10am to noon, Clinic 1pm to 3pm- Saugeen area libraries at the Hanover Public Library
 Monday, October 30, 2006 - Meeting 10am to 12:30pm; Clinic 1:30pm to 3:30pm- Hastings-Northumberland-Prince Edward area libraries at the new Belleville Public Library
 lundi, le 30 octobre 2006- Regular meeting of the Prescott-Russell area libraries (Comité des services en français) - The Nation Public Library - St-Albert branch/la bibliothèque publique de La Nation, succursale St-Albert
 Wednesday, November 1, 2006 - Meeting 10am to noon, Clinic 1pm to 3pm- Simcoe-Muskoka area libraries at the Springwater Public Library - Elmvale Branch

9. TRUSTEE COUNCIL MEETINGS

Trustee Councils meet twice a year and all public library boards may send a representative. While all appointed trustee council representatives will receive a print mailing of the agenda, the dates of the upcoming meetings, in chronological order, are as follows. Further information is posted under "Networking Opportunities" at <http://www.sols.org/librarydev/networking/trusteecouncils/dates.htm>

Trustee Council 1 - Saturday, October 21, 2006 from 10am to 1pm- Middlesex County Public Library
 Strathroy, new Library Office

Trustee Council #2 (Escarpment) - Saturday, October 21, 2006 from 9am to noon- Caledon Public Library - Margaret Dunn Valleywood Branch)

Trustee Council 3 - Monday, October 16, 2006 from 6pm to 9pm - Hanover Public Library

Trustee Council 4 - Saturday, October 14, 2006 from 10am to 1pm - New Tecumseth Public Library - Beeton Branch

Trustee Council 5 - Saturday, October 14, 2006 from 9:30am to 12:30pm - tour at 9am- Oshawa Public Library - new Legends Branch

Trustee Council 6 - Saturday, October 14, 2006 from 9:30am to 1pm (extra time for tour) - Belleville Public Library - new Library

Trustee Council 7 - Saturday, October 14, 2006 from 10am to 1pm- Petawawa Public Library

Trustee Council 8 - Saturday, October 21, 2006 from 10am to 1pm - Cornwall Public Library

As this will be an election year for municipalities, the current term for library board appointments will also end. Part of the discussion at the Trustee Council meetings may focus on relationships with municipal councilors and Library Board Recruitment. In the 'Publications' section of the SOLS website, there is a link to the series of publications called **Trustee Tips**. SOLS produced two titles in this series which would be of interest to trustees concerning these topics:

Trustee Tip #24 - *Library Board Recruitment 2003* (September 2003)

Trustee Tip #25 - *Building Effective Relationships between the Library and the Municipality* November 2003)

The direct link to the **Trustee Tips** section is <http://www.sols.org/publications/trusteehints/index.htm>

10. FIRST NATION GATHERING

The Fall 2006 First Nation Fall Gathering will be held from Thursday, November 9, 2006 [afternoon] and Friday, November 10, 2006 [morning]. The location is The Bear's Inn, Ohsweken. Further information will be posted on the

SOLS website soon.

11. TD SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2006 – Evaluation forms due by September 29th

To measure the impact of the TD Summer Reading Club 2006 – *Quest for Heroes!*, TD Bank Financial Group and Library and Archives Canada (LAC) **require** that all participating libraries fill out the "Statistics and Evaluation Form" between August 25 and September 29, 2006. Again this year, Decima Research will manage the data collection on their dedicated and secure server. By now, each participating library should have received an e-mail invitation from Decima Research with a URL address that is unique to the individual library system. We can track those libraries that have already submitted the forms, and will be following up with others to try to ensure that all participating libraries complete the evaluation.

In October, Decima Research will analyze the data. SOLS will receive a copy of the national report, which will also include an appendix on SOLS' statistics. Only the national report will be made available on the TDSRC website. You can view the *National Report of 2005 Program Statistics- Executive Summary/ Key Findings* at the following link: <http://www.td-club-td.ca/2006/009003-06-540-e.html>. For questions about the program, or the evaluation process, please contact Peggy Malcolm at 1-866-380-9767 or summerreading@sols.org.

12. MINISTRY OF CULTURE

a) Library Strategic Development Fund – Deadline is October 2, 2006

The Ministry of Culture's 2006/07 Library Strategic Development Fund (LSDF) program is a mechanism through which the public library community can achieve its goals, and complement and support provincial government key priorities. These government priorities are better student achievement, healthier Ontarians in a healthier Ontario, better workers for better jobs in an innovative economy, safe and vital communities that offer Ontarians a higher quality of life, and more active citizens contributing to a stronger democracy. Applicants must address a minimum of one of these government priorities in their applications.

From the guidelines, examples of eligible projects would be strategic province-wide initiatives and projects that benefit or serve as models for the provincial library system as a whole. Projects must involve partnerships. Projects can address one or more of the following priorities, including:

- New technical support services for the broader public library sector;
- Research initiatives on key issues that impact the public library sector, e.g. human resources needs;
- Increased capacity to address emerging issues within the public library community;
- Innovative projects to improve access to, or use of, the public library system;
- New standards or best practices that could be adopted to benefit the public library system;
- Partnerships that develop and implement new products or services;
- Digital collections, digital centres of expertise, and new and innovative digital services.

Applicants are required to complete the LSDF application form that is posted on the Ministry website at <http://www.culture.gov.on.ca/english/culdiv/library/lrdf.htm>. The backgrounder and guidelines are also posted at that site. Program guidelines, application forms and a cover bulletin were distributed to public libraries in July 2006. The deadline for the 2006/07 LSDF grants is Monday, October 2, 2006.

b) Government Telephone Directory

The Government of Ontario will no longer be producing a printed Government Telephone book; as a result the online directory (INFO-GO) has recently had a redesign. The online directory, INFO-GO, can be found at <http://www.info.go.gov.on.ca/info.go>.

c) New Government E-mail format

The Ontario Government is moving to a common email addressing format *firstname.lastname@ontario.ca*. All Ministry of Culture staff have been assigned their new email addresses. Older e-mail addresses, for example, those with *gov.on.ca*, will continue to be directed to the Ministry of Culture staff for a period of time. However, it would be best to begin using the new addresses as soon as possible.

If you have any doubt about a new address, you can check INFO-GO, mentioned earlier, at <http://www.info.go.gov.on.ca/info.go>.

13. ONTARIO PUBLIC LIBRARY WEEK AND "TELLING OUR STORIES"

The Federation of Ontario Public Libraries (FOPL) announced a new program, which will be launched during Public Library Week this October. *Telling Our Stories* is a province-wide contest that will highlight and celebrate the positive impact of public libraries on the lives of residents of Ontario. From October 16 to November 30, 2006, Ontario residents will be invited to share their personal stories of how public libraries have made a difference to them or their families.

Was it something you read? Something you saw? Something you heard? Did a librarian help in an extraordinary way? Did you learn a new skill or how to think differently? Or do you or your family members have a wonderful memory to share? This is the impact that will be captured and shared through an online database of stories.

The top three winning stories will be awarded cash prizes (First prize \$1,500; Second prize \$1,000; Third prize \$500). In addition, a donation of \$250 will be made in the name of the top three winners and the top 10 runners-up to the Ontario public libraries of their choice. Stories will be voted on by the public online and a short list will be presented to a panel of distinguished judges for their final decision.

To ensure high participation by Ontario residents, both for story submissions and public voting for their favourite stories, the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries has partnered with Ontario's educational media organization, TVO. TVO will promote the contest on air and encourage Ontarians to participate at www.tvo.org/tellingourstories. Ontario's French-language educational broadcaster, TFO, is also promoting the contest on air and online. French language submissions can be made at www.tfo.org/racontonsnoshistoires.

During the week of October 2nd, all Ontario library CEOs will be receiving shipments, either by courier or by mail, with everything needed to participate in *Telling Our Stories*. The shipment will contain:

- Your library's Secure Access Code (printed on emerald green paper) that can be used to customize the library's website, to rate stories between October 16 and December 15, and to view reports and statistics after the contest finishes;
- Bookmarks and Posters for the library system. Larger library systems are asked to distribute these to all branches;
- *Telling Our Stories* Guidebook (one copy per branch), which is your library's reference guide about the contest. This guide contains all the information needed for the program, including the partnership between the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries and TVO, the contest overview, how judging works, how to encourage customers to participate with story submissions or to vote for their favourite stories online, how staff can get involved as Library Raters, as well as the contest rules and key dates of the contest.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Yvonne Attard, *Telling Our Stories* Communications, Federation of Ontario Public Libraries at 416 909 7251 or by e-mail to yattard@cogeco.ca

14. SOLS CEO LISTSERV

SOLS maintains a list of all the e-mail addresses for SOLS CEOs. It is this list that is used to distribute *Signal*. Several times through the month, you may also receive other messages from SOLS. This month, the following messages were sent:

- On September 7th, Laurey Gillies sent a message regarding the I Can Foundation. The I Can Foundation has an opportunity to establish a library on the island of Dominica and is trying to identify sources for books. Libraries may have discards that would suit I Can's needs. There was an accompanying e-mail about the program, but if you would like more information or are able to assist, please email directly to michi.komori@sympatico.ca.
- On September 6th and September 27th, messages regarding FOPL's *Telling our Stories* work were sent by Laurey Gillies and by Sue Walls. More information on this work is presented earlier in this issue of *Signal*.
- On September 8th, Barbara Franchetto sent a message regarding a consortium purchase of audiobooks. More information on this is provided in this issue of *Signal*.
- On September 13th, Laurey Gillies sent a message regarding the distribution of two educational DVD's, "**Stephanie's Place Safety Tour**" and "**Is Your Child Safe & Secure?**" free of charge. The DVD's will be arriving at each of your branches in the mail in the near future. For more information, you can visit www.brampton.ca/fire, call 905-458-5580 or e-mail firelife@brampton.ca. **Stephanie's Place Safety Tour** is an interactive educational DVD & CD-ROM that was created at the Brampton Fire/Life Safety Education Centre, and demonstrates many different hazards that may be found in the home. This DVD includes a 20-minute segment for adults, and an 18-

minute segment for children to be viewed in a school or family setting. Both adult and children segments are divided into three key areas of the home: kitchen, living room and bed and bathroom. **Is Your Child Safe & Secure?** reflects Bill-73 requiring infants, toddlers, pre-schoolers and primary grade age children to be buckled up in the appropriate child restraint system. It is the intent of the DVD to take some of the challenge and confusion out of the car and booster seat installations. The DVD is 28 minutes long and divided into 11 chapters.

- On September 14th, Barbara Franchetto provided information on the switch of Osprey to CEDROM-SNi. Further information is included earlier in this issue of *Signal*.
- On September 18th, Gelja Wegman sent out a message regarding the upgrade to the SOLS web server in the SOLS Toronto office on September 21st. She also reminded staff that a notice has also been sent to the interlibrary loan listservs, reminding staff that VDX is still available via the web address <http://info.hostedbyfdi.net/en/vdx/index.html>.
- On September 18th, Barbara Franchetto sent a message regarding the Ontario Public Library Directory. Further information is included in this issue of *Signal*.

If you did not receive these messages, and would like further information, please contact the SOLS HelpDesk at 1-800-387-5765, ext. 4, or by e-mail to helpdesk@sols.org

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